

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 17 October 2016**

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(SE16/057) - TPV and SHEV applications - Programme 2.4: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance**

Senator McKim, Nick (L&CA) written:

1. How many applications for Temporary Protection Visas (TPVs) and Safe Haven Enterprise Visas (SHEVs) have been made in the past twelve months?
2. How long is it taking for applications to be processed?
3. Why does it take so long to process these Visa applications?
4. How many TPV and SHEV applications were rejected?
5. How many TPV and SHEV applications were not processed?
6. Why were so many TPV and SHEV applications rejected/not processed?

*Answer:*

From 20 October 2015 to 20 October 2016, there were 2018 TPV and 6722 SHEV applications lodged.

The Department is rigorously assessing all applications on their individual merits against the requirements in the *Migration Act 1958*, using the most current and relevant country of origin information. The assessment includes national security, health and identity checks. The processing time varies significantly from case to case and is affected by characteristics such as:

- the number of applicants;
- the age of applicants;
- time taken for applicants to respond to requests for information; and
- security, character and health requirements

From the introduction of *Resolving the Asylum Legacy Caseload Act 2014* on 16 December 2014 to 20 October 2016, 1559 TPVs and 250 SHEVs have been affirmed as refused following an independent merits review.